

By: Taunnie Boothby  
Introduced: April 17, 2017  
Public Hearing: May 1, 2017  
Action: Approved

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 17-16**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 17-035 AMENDING MSB CHAPTER 17.29 FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION TO CORRECT ADMINISTRATIVE ERRORS AND INCLUDE A TWO FOOT FREEBOARD REQUIREMENT FOR STRUCTURES IN THE SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA.

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WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is a participating community in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); and

WHEREAS, an overall goal of the NFIP is to promote the public health, safety, and welfare by adopting methods of development in Special Flood Hazard Areas; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) routinely audits NFIP participating communities to ensure compliance with the US Code of Federal Regulations; and

WHEREAS, FEMA conducted an audit of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough in the fall of 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough received the final audit findings in January of 2016; and

WHEREAS, the FEMA audit identified deficiencies in MSB code that require correction; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments are consistent with the US Code of Federal Regulations; and

WHEREAS, FEMA strongly recommended adoption of a freeboard requirement in the recent audit; and

WHEREAS, the proposed two-foot freeboard requirement will enhance health, safety, and welfare in Special Flood Hazard Area; and

WHEREAS, the proposed two-foot freeboard requirement will reduce damages and expenses for homeowners and business owners during flood related events; and

WHEREAS, adoption of a two-foot freeboard will likely reduce the need for emergency response in future flood events; and

WHEREAS, the expense in building materials to elevate a structure two additional feet is relatively inexpensive compared to the life expectancy of a structure; and

WHEREAS, a two-foot freeboard reduces flood insurance costs of a home by approximately one-third; and

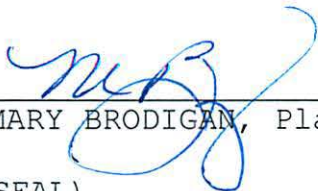
WHEREAS, building expenses related to elevating a home by two additional feet are typically recouped through lower flood insurance costs within the first five to ten years of a home being built.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission hereby recommends approval of an ordinance amending MSB Chapter 17.29 Flood Damage Prevention to correct administrative errors and include a two-foot freeboard requirement for structures in the special flood hazard area.

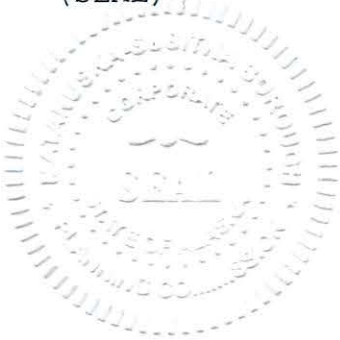
ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission  
this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2017.

  
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COLLEEN VAGUE, Chair

ATTEST

  
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MARY BRODIGAN, Planning Clerk

(SEAL)



YES: *Vague, Anderson, Healy, Cluskey, Elder, Glashan,*  
*and Rauchenstein*  
NO: